

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-59 (cancelled).

60 (currently amended). A method of coating a substrate which is a core of a pharmaceutical dosage form, which comprises electrostatically applying to the core a powder material comprising a pharmaceutically or diagnostically active material, wherein the coated substrate constitutes a unit dosage and wherein the substrate is supported from above and the powder moves from a source upwards towards a lower surface of the substrate.

61-63 (cancelled).

64 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 50µm.

65 (previously presented). The method according to claim 64, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 20µm.

66 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein at least 95% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 30 μ m.

67 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein at least 30% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size in the range of from 5 to 20 μ m.

68-70 (cancelled).

71 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein the powder material includes discrete composite particles formed from two or more different components.

72-86 (cancelled).

87 (currently amended). A method of coating a substrate which is a core for a pharmaceutical tablet, which comprises electrostatically applying a powder material comprising a pharmaceutically or diagnostically active material to a surface of the core, wherein the substrate is supported from above and the powder moves from a source upwards towards a lower surface of the substrate.

88-90 (cancelled).

91 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 50 μ m.

92 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 20 μ m.

93 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein at least 95% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 30 μ m.

94 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein at least 30% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size in the range of from 5 to 20 μ m.

95–97 (cancelled).

98 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein the powder material includes discrete composite particles formed from two or more different components.

99–142 (cancelled).

143. (previously presented). A method of coating a pharmaceutical substrate, which comprises electrostatically applying to the substrate a powder material comprising a pharmaceutically or diagnostically active material, wherein the powder material includes composite particles which are discrete composite particles formed from two or more different components and wherein the substrate is supported from above and the powder moves from a source upwards towards a lower surface of the substrate.

144 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 50µm.

145 (previously presented). The method according to claim 144, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 20µm.

146 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein at least 95% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 30µm.

147 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein at least 30% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size in the range of from 5 to 20 μ m.

148 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material has a resistivity in the range of 10^8 to 10^{16} Ω m.

149 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material is able to be charged triboelectrically and/or by corona charging.

150 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material is an electret.

151 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material is fusible at a temperature in the range of 60°C to 180°C.

152 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material is fusible at a temperature in the range of 60°C to 100°C.

153 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the powder material includes a disintegrator.

154 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the method comprising supporting the substrate adjacent to a source of the powder material with a surface of the substrate at such a different electric potential from that of the coating material that the powder is caused to move from the source of the powder towards the substrate and the surface of the substrate becomes coated with the powder material.

155 (canceled).

156 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the method further includes the step that after the substrate has been coated with the powder, the powder is treated to form a continuous film coating secured to the substrate.

157 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the active material is one or more compounds selected from acid-peptic and motility-influencing agents, laxatives, anti-diarrhoeals, colo-rectal agents, pancreatic enzymes and bile acids, antiarrhythmics, antianginals, diuretics, anti-hypertensives, anticoagulants, antithrombotics, fibrinolytics, haemostatics, hypolipidaemic agents, anaemia agents, neutropenia agents, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antipsychotics, antidepressants, anti-emetics, anticonvulsants, CNS stimulants, analgesics, antipyretics, anti-migraine agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, anti-gout agents, muscle relaxants, neuro-muscular agents, steroids, hypoglycaemic agents,

hyperglycaemic agents, diagnostic agents, antibiotics, anti-fungals, anti-malarials, anti-virals, immunosuppressants, nutritional agents, vitamins, electrolytes, anorectic agents, appetite suppressants, bronchodilators, expectorants, anti-tussives, mucolytics, decongestants, anti-glaucoma agents, oral contraceptive agents, diagnostic and anti-neoplastic agents.

158 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the quantity of powder material applied to the substrate amounts to substantially one dose of active material.

159 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein after coating with the powder material the powder is fused.

160 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein after coating with the powder material the powder is fused.

161 (previously presented). The method according to claim 60, wherein the powder material includes at least two different components which have been co-processed.

162 (previously presented). The method according to claim 87, wherein the powder material includes at least two different components which have been co-processed.

163 (currently amended). A method of coating a pharmaceutical substrate, which comprises electrostatically applying to the substrate a powder material comprising a pharmaceutically or diagnostically active material, wherein the powder material includes at least two different components which have been co-processed and wherein the substrate is supported from above and the powder moves from a source upwards towards a lower surface of the substrate.

164 (previously presented). The method according to claim 163, wherein the quantity of coating material applied constitutes substantially one dosage of active material.

165 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164 wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 50 μ m.

166 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein at least 90% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 20 μ m.

167 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein at least 95% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size of less than 30 μ m.

168 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein at least 30% by volume of the particles of the powder material have a particle size in the range of from 5 to 20 μ m.

169 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein the powder material includes discrete composite particles formed from two or more different components.

170 (canceled).

171 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein after coating with the powder material the powder is fused.

172 (previously presented). The method according to claim 143, wherein the substrate contains a different active material from the powder material.

173 (previously presented). The method according to claim 164, wherein the substrate contains a different active material from the powder material.